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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>27 May 2008</u>.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.　　　　2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-3,6-21 and 24-29</u> is/are pending in the application.
　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-3,6-21 and 24-29</u> is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
　　a)☐ All　b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is in response to the amendment filed 5/27/2008.

2.   Claims 1-3, 6-10, 15-18, and 29 have been amended; claims 4, 5, 22, and 23

have been canceled; claims 1-3, 6-21, and 24-29 remain pending and have been

considered below.

Claim Objections

3.   Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10, 15, 17-19, and 21 are objected to because of the following

informalities: These claims recite the words "adapted" or "for" or "configured". They

indicate intended use and as such do not carry patentable weight. The limitations

following the words "adapted" or "for" or "configured" describes only intended use but

not necessarily required functionality of the claim. Claims should be amended to

change "adapted to store" to "store(s)." Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5.   Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Carter et al. (6,026,474).

As per claim 17:

Carter teaches

a) a computer readable medium providing a read-only cache adapted to store copies of said requested version and any currently and previously accessed ones of said plurality of versions obtained from said repository through communication with said central server device (see at least col. 1:50-60 "***The proxy server provides a degree of sharing between individual users caches, because the proxy server caches data accessed by the entire group of users. Stored data may include cached copies of Web pages, image files, JAVA applets, and ActiveX controls. The proxy server manages each user's Internet connection and, as mentioned above, provides a degree of data caching between users of the system, since the proxy server may cache data downloaded by a first user. If that data remains in the proxy server's cache when a second user requests it, the proxy server can supply the data to the second user***"); and

b) a processor configured to execute computer readable instructions for running a version provider adapted to provide the requested version of the file to said client device, the version provider being configured to upon receiving a request for said requested version from said client device, first check the read only cache for the requested version to provide the requested version from said read-only cache when available and, if the requested version is not available, to

request the requested version from said central server device on behalf of said

client device (see at least col. 1:50-60 "***The proxy server provides a degree of***

sharing between individual users caches, because the proxy server caches

data accessed by the entire group of users. Stored data may include

cached copies of Web pages, image files, JAVA applets, and ActiveX

controls. The proxy server manages each user's Internet connection and,

as mentioned above, provides a degree of data caching between users of

the system, since the proxy server may cache data downloaded by a first

user. If that data remains in the proxy server's cache when a second user

requests it, the proxy server can supply the data to the second user").

<u>As per claim 18:</u>

Carter further teaches

wherein the read-only cache is configured to store copies of more than

one of said plurality of versions of said file requested from said central server

device by said client device (see at least col. 1:50-60 "***The proxy server***

provides a degree of sharing between individual users caches, because the

proxy server caches data accessed by the entire group of users. Stored

data may include cached copies of Web pages, image files, JAVA applets,

and ActiveX controls. The proxy server manages each user's Internet

connection and, as mentioned above, provides a degree of data caching

between users of the system, since the proxy server may cache data

downloaded by a first user. If that data remains in the proxy server's cache

when a second user requests it, the proxy server can supply the data to the

second user").

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7.   Claims 1-3, 6-16, 19-21, and 24-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Hino (USPN 6,185,563), in view of either Ebata et al. (USPN

6,513,061) or Carter et al. (6,026,474).

As per claim 1:

Hino teaches

a) a central server device comprising a processor and computer readable

medium adapted to store a repository of at least one set of data for obtaining a

plurality of versions of a file, said central server device also being adapted to

control all modifications to said data and to create new versions of said file (see

at least col. 5:1-3 "*a server body which has a function of storing and*

managing documents two or more clients share"; see also *FIG. 1*); and

c) at least one client device comprising a processor and computer

readable medium, said at least one client device being connected to said proxy

server device, said at least one client device comprising a version manager

adapted to generate requests for a copy of said request version through said

proxy server device to reduce network traffic between said proxy server device

and said central server device and to reduce load on said central server device

(see at least col. 6:42 "*when a client 40 makes a check-out request*"; see also

FIG. 1).

Hino does not teach

b) a proxy server device comprising a processor and computer readable

medium, said proxy server device being connected to said central server device,

said proxy server device including a read-only proxy cache adapted to store

copies of currently and previously accessed ones of said plurality of versions

obtained from said repository through communication with said central server

device, said proxy server device also being adapted to provide a requested

version from said read-only proxy cached when available and by requesting said

requested version from said central server device otherwise.

However, Ebata teaches

b) a proxy server device comprising a processor and computer readable

medium, said proxy server device being connected to said central server device,

said proxy server device including a read-only proxy cache adapted to store

copies of currently and previously accessed ones of said plurality of versions

obtained from said repository through communication with said central server

device, said proxy server device also being adapted to provide a requested

version from said read-only proxy cached when available and by requesting said

requested version from said central server device otherwise (see at least col.

5:54-59 "***The proxy server therefore provides the capability of downloading***

the resource or data located in the server and caching it on the timing

when the request from the client is received and providing the client with

the cached resource or data for the purpose of curtailing the traffic and the

load of the server").

More explicitly, Carter teaches

        b) a proxy server device comprising a processor and computer readable

medium, said proxy server device being connected to said central server device,

said proxy server device including a read-only proxy cache adapted to store

copies of currently and previously accessed ones of said plurality of versions

obtained from said repository through communication with said central server

device, said proxy server device also being adapted to provide a requested

version from said read-only proxy cached when available and by requesting said

requested version from said central server device otherwise (see at least col.

1:50-60 "***The proxy server provides a degree of sharing between individual***

users caches, because the proxy server caches data accessed by the entire

group of users. Stored data may include cached copies of Web pages,

image files, JAVA applets, and ActiveX controls. The proxy server

manages each user's Internet connection and, as mentioned above,

provides a degree of data caching between users of the system, since the

proxy server may cache data downloaded by a first user. If that data

remains in the proxy server's cache when a second user requests it, the

proxy server can supply the data to the second user").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to recognize the well known technique of using proxy

server to curtail the traffic and the load of the server in order to modify Hino's approach

to include the teaching of Ebata. The modification would have been obvious for

purpose of curtailing the traffic and the load of the server.

As per claim 2:

Hino in combination with Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the base

claim and Hino further teaches

a plurality of branches and a plurality of proxy server devices each

comprising a processor and computer readable medium, wherein, for a first

branch of said plurality of branches, said central server device is adapted to

stored a list of proxy server devices selected from said plurality of proxy server

device and associated with said first branch; and wherein the version control

system is configured to send a update to notify each proxy server device in the

list when a change is made to said first branch (see Ebata at least col. 20:55-63

"*a proxy server selecting unit for selecting one of the proxy servers*

according to the predetermined selecting rule, based on geographic

information of said client and said location information of each of said

proxy servers stored in said proxy server information storing unit, when

receiving from said client an inquiry request for inquiring a network

address of a server corresponding to a domain name of said server, the

geographic location information of said client being attached to said

inquiry request").

As per claim 3:

Hino in combination with Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the base

claim and Hino further teaches

wherein said central server device includes an access control system

adapted to validate requests received by said central server device (see at least

col. 6:45-48 "*Upon accepting a check-out request from a client 40 (step A1*

in FIG. 6), the server 10 determines whether or not the check-out of a

specified document is possible on the basis of a document management

number specified in the request").

As per claim 6:

Hino in combination with Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the base

claim and Hino further teaches

wherein the at least one client device is adapted to modify the repository

through said central server device (see at least col. 5:25-32 "*Reference numeral*

40 denotes clients that are line connected to the server 10 through a

communications path 50 such as a local area network (LAN). Each client

has a function of referencing (retrieving, printing, etc.) any document in the

database freely and a function of updating the document borrowed through

the check-out processing and checking in (i.e., returning) it under the

check-in check-out management of the server 10").

As per claim 7:

Hino in combination with Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the base

claim and Hino further teaches

wherein the central server device includes a checkout mechanism for

controlling modification to the repository (see at least col. 5:1-3 "*a server body*

which has a function of storing and managing documents two or more

clients share and has its internal storage (not shown) stored with a check-

in check-out processing program for implementing a check-in check-out

based document management facility to be described later").

As per claims 8 and 26:

Hino in combination with Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the base

claim and Hino further teaches

wherein the central server device includes a log of changes for controlling

modification to the repository (see at least col. 5:39-44 "*The status recording*

entries of the check-in check-out table 21 include, as shown in FIG. 3, items

of document management number (DOCUMENT No.), check-out user

(CHKOUT_USER), check-out date (CHKOUT_DATE), check-out time limit

(CHKOUT_LIMIT), and check-in status (CHKIN_STATUS)").

As per claims 9 and 27:

Hino in combination with Carter teaches all the limitations of the base claim and

Ebata further teaches

wherein the log is used to update said proxy server device after a

disruption to the connection between the proxy server device and the central

server device (see Ebata at least col. 5:54-59 "*The proxy server therefore*

provides the capability of downloading the resource or data located in the

server and caching it on the timing when the request from the client is

received and providing the client with the cached resource or data for the

purpose of curtailing the traffic and the load of the server").

Or Carter teaches

wherein the log is used to update said proxy server device after a

disruption to the connection between the proxy server device and the central

server device (see at least col. 1:50-60 "***The proxy server provides a degree of***

sharing between individual users caches, because the proxy server caches

data accessed by the entire group of users. Stored data may include

cached copies of Web pages, image files, JAVA applets, and ActiveX

controls. The proxy server manages each user's Internet connection and,

as mentioned above, provides a degree of data caching between users of

the system, since the proxy server may cache data downloaded by a first

user. If that data remains in the proxy server's cache when a second user

requests it, the proxy server can supply the data to the second user").

As per claims 10 and 28:

Hino in combination with Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the base

claim and Ebata further teaches

a plurality of chained together proxy server devices each comprising a

processor and computer readable medium and being adapted to server a

geographic area, wherein each proxy server device of said plurality of chained

together proxy server devices is connected to at least one client device, said

plurality of chained together proxy server devices each being connected to one

proxy server device, said one proxy server device being connected to said

central server device (see at least ***FIG. 1***).

As per claim 11:

Hino further teaches

a) the first interconnected client requesting from the central server,

through the first intervening proxy, a lock on a requested version of a file in the

version control system, said requested version being one of a plurality of

versions of said file recoverable from a set of data stored in a repository at said

central sewer (see at least col. 6:42 "*when a client 40 makes a check-out*

request"; see also *FIG. 1*);

b) the central server checking whether the requested version is unlocked

and, if the requested version is unlocked, granting the request of said first

interconnected client through said first intervening proxy (see at least col. 6:45-48

"*Upon accepting a check-out request from a client 40 (step A1 in FIG. 6),*

the server 10 determines whether or not the check-out of a specified

document is possible on the basis of a document management number

specified in the request");

c) the central server sending an update to said second client and to said

second proxy notifying the second client of the granting of the request (see at

least col. 9:39-42 "*A message to the effect that the document is being*

checked out is sent to the client 40 to thereby prevent the concurrent

double updating of the same document by two or more users").

Hino does not teach

proxy server.

However, Ebata teaches

proxy server (see at least col. 5:54-59 "*The proxy server therefore provides the capability of downloading the resource or data located in the server and caching it on the timing when the request from the client is received and providing the client with the cached resource or data for the purpose of curtailing the traffic and the load of the server*").

More explicitly, Carter teaches

proxy server (see at least col. 1:50-60 "*The proxy server provides a degree of sharing between individual users caches, because the proxy server caches data accessed by the entire group of users. Stored data may include cached copies of Web pages, image files, JAVA applets, and ActiveX controls. The proxy server manages each user's Internet connection and, as mentioned above, provides a degree of data caching between users of the system, since the proxy server may cache data downloaded by a first user. If that data remains in the proxy server's cache when a second user requests it, the proxy server can supply the data to the second user*").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to recognize the well known technique of using proxy

server to curtail the traffic and the load of the server in order to modify Hino's approach

to include the teaching of Ebata. The modification would have been obvious for

purpose of curtailing the traffic and the load of the server.

As per claim 12:

Hino in combination with Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the base

claim and Hino further teaches

wherein said lock permits only said first interconnected client to modify

said version of said file (see at least col. 9:40-42 "...***prevent the concurrent***

double updating of the same document by two or more users").

As per claim 13:

Hino in combination with Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of base claim

and Hino further teaches

said first interconnected client performing modification to said version of

said file and returning the modification to said central server through said first

intervening proxy (see at least col. 5:26-31 "***Each client has a function of***

referencing (retrieving, printing, etc.) any document in the database freely

and a function of updating the document borrowed through the check-out

processing and checking in (i.e., returning) it under the check-in check-out

management of the server").

As per claim 14:

Hino in combination with Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the base

claim and Hino further teaches

said central server sending modification to said second client and to said

second proxy (see at least col. 9:39-42 "*A message to the effect that the*

document is being checked out is sent to the client 40 to thereby prevent

the concurrent double updating of the same document by two or more

users").

As per claim 15:

Hino further teaches

a) a computer readable medium providing a repository of at least one set

of data for obtaining a plurality of versions of a file used in said software

development (see at least *FIG. 1*; see also col. 5:10-12 "*Reference numeral 20*

denotes a document management database (management DB) that

implements the document management facility on a check-in check-out

management basic...");

b) a processor configured to execute computer executable instructions for

running a version manager adapted to provide a requested version of said file

from said repository to said proxy server device and adapted to control

modifications to said data and to create new versions of said file (see at least col.

6:45-67 – col. 7:1-3 "*Upon accepting a check-out request from a client 40*

(step A1 in FIG. 6), the server 10 determines whether or not the check-out

of a specified document is possible on the basis of a document

management number specified in the request...In this manner, the

specified document is checked out (i.e., the document is lent out to the

user"*);

      c) computer executable instructions for running an access control system

adapted to manage a request from the client device to modify the contents of

said repository (see at least col. 6:45-48 "*Upon accepting a check-out request*

from a client 40 (step A1 in FIG. 6), the server 10 determines whether or not

the check-out of a specified document is possible on the basis of a

document management number specified in the request"); and

      c) a memory structure adapted to store a log of modifications made to the

contents of said repository and adapted to store a list of portions of said

repository also being stored in the read-only cache of the proxy server (see at

least col. 5:39-44 "*The status recording entries of the check-in check-out*

table 21 include, as shown in FIG. 3, items of document management

number (DOCUMENT No.), check-out user (CHKOUT_USER), check-out

date (CHKOUT_DATE), check-out time limit (CHKOUT_LIMIT), and check-in

status (CHKIN_STATUS)").

Hino does not teach

proxy server.

However, Ebata teaches

proxy server (see at least col. 5:54-59 "*The proxy server therefore*

provides the capability of downloading the resource or data located in the

server and caching it on the timing when the request from the client is

received and providing the client with the cached resource or data for the

purpose of curtailing the traffic and the load of the server").

More explicitly, Carter teaches

proxy server (see at least col. 1:50-60 "*The proxy server provides a*

degree of sharing between individual users caches, because the proxy

server caches data accessed by the entire group of users. Stored data may

include cached copies of Web pages, image files, JAVA applets, and

ActiveX controls. The proxy server manages each user's Internet

connection and, as mentioned above, provides a degree of data caching

between users of the system, since the proxy server may cache data

downloaded by a first user. If that data remains in the proxy server's cache

when a second user requests it, the proxy server can supply the data to the

second user").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to recognize the well known technique of using proxy

server to curtail the traffic and the load of the server in order to modify Hino's approach

to include the teaching of Ebata. The modification would have been obvious for

purpose of curtailing the traffic and the load of the server.

As per claim 16:

Hino in combination with either Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of base

claim and Ebata or Carter further teaches

> wherein said log is used to update said read-only cache in said proxy
>
> server device after a disruption to the connection between said proxy server
>
> device and said central server device (see at least col. 1:50-60 "***The proxy***
>
> ***server provides a degree of sharing between individual users caches,***
>
> ***because the proxy server caches data accessed by the entire group of***
>
> ***users. Stored data may include cached copies of Web pages, image files,***
>
> ***JAVA applets, and ActiveX controls. The proxy server manages each***
>
> ***user's Internet connection and, as mentioned above, provides a degree of***
>
> ***data caching between users of the system, since the proxy server may***
>
> ***cache data downloaded by a first user. If that data remains in the proxy***
>
> ***server's cache when a second user requests it, the proxy server can supply***
>
> ***the data to the second user***").

As per claim 19:

Hino further teaches

a) storing a repository of at least one set of data for obtaining a plurality of

versions of a file on a central server configured to control all modifications to said

data and to create new versions of said file (see at least *FIG. 1*; see also col.

5:10-12 "*Reference numeral 20 denotes a document management database*

(management DB) that implements the document management facility on a

check-in check-out management basic...");

c) establishing communication between said proxy server and a client

comprising a version manager adapted to generate a request for a copy of a

requested version of said file from said repository through said proxy server to

reduce network traffic between said central server and said client and to reduce

load on said central server (see at least col. 6:42 "*when a client 40 makes a*

check-out request"; see also *FIG. 1*).

Hino does not teach

b) establishing communication between said central server and a proxy

server including a read-only cache configured to store copies of currently and

previously accessed ones of said plurality of versions obtained from said

repository through communication between said central server and said proxy

server; and

d) causing said proxy server to provide said requested version from said read-only cache when available and by requesting said requested version from said central server otherwise.

Ebata teaches

b) establishing communication between said central server and a proxy server including a read-only cache configured to store copies of currently and previously accessed ones of said plurality of versions obtained from said repository through communication between said central server and said proxy server (see at least col. 5:54-59 "*The proxy server therefore provides the capability of downloading the resource or data located in the server and caching it on the timing when the request from the client is received and providing the client with the cached resource or data for the purpose of curtailing the traffic and the load of the server*"); and

d) causing said proxy server to provide said requested version from said read-only cache when available and by requesting said requested version from said central server otherwise (see at least col. 5:54-59 "*The proxy server therefore provides the capability of downloading the resource or data located in the server and caching it on the timing when the request from the client is received and providing the client with the cached resource or data for the purpose of curtailing the traffic and the load of the server*").

More explicitly, Carter teaches

b) establishing communication between said central server and a proxy

server including a read-only cache configured to store copies of currently and

previously accessed ones of said plurality of versions obtained from said

repository through communication between said central server and said proxy

server (see at least col. 1:50-60 "*The proxy server provides a degree of*

sharing between individual users caches, because the proxy server caches

data accessed by the entire group of users. Stored data may include

cached copies of Web pages, image files, JAVA applets, and ActiveX

controls. The proxy server manages each user's Internet connection and,

as mentioned above, provides a degree of data caching between users of

the system, since the proxy server may cache data downloaded by a first

user. If that data remains in the proxy server's cache when a second user

requests it, the proxy server can supply the data to the second user"); and

d) causing said proxy server to provide said requested version from said

read-only cache when available and by requesting said requested version from

said central server otherwise (see at least col. 1:50-60 "*The proxy server*

provides a degree of sharing between individual users caches, because the

proxy server caches data accessed by the entire group of users. Stored

data may include cached copies of Web pages, image files, JAVA applets,

and ActiveX controls. The proxy server manages each user's Internet

connection and, as mentioned above, provides a degree of data caching

between users of the system, since the proxy server may cache data

downloaded by a first user. If that data remains in the proxy server's cache

when a second user requests it, the proxy server can supply the data to the

second user").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to recognize the well known technique of using proxy

server to curtail the traffic and the load of the server in order to modify Hino's approach

to include the teaching of Ebata. The modification would have been obvious for

purpose of curtailing the traffic and the load of the server.

<u>As per claim 20:</u>

Hino in combination with either Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the

base claim and further teaches

maintaining a list of additional proxy servers in the version control system,

said additional proxy servers being in addition to said proxy server in

communication with said client (see Ebata at least col. 20:55-63 "***a proxy server***

selecting unit for selecting one of the proxy servers according to the

predetermined selecting rule, based on geographic information of said

client and said location information of each of said proxy servers stored in

said proxy server information storing unit, when receiving from said client

an inquiry request for inquiring a network address of a server

corresponding to a domain name of said server, the geographic location

information of said client being attached to said inquiry request"); and

notifying said additional proxy servers in the list when a change is made to

said versioned file (see Hino at least col. 9:39-42 "*A message to the effect that*

the document is being checked out is sent to the client 40 to thereby

prevent the concurrent double updating of the same document by two or

more users").

As per claim 21:

Hino in combination with either Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the

base claim and Hino further teaches

wherein said central server includes an access control system adapted to

validate requests received by said central server from said proxy server, said

computer-readable medium further comprising instructions for the following step:

validating said request received by said central server (see at least col. 6:45-48

"*Upon accepting a check-out request from a client 40 (step A1 in FIG. 6),*

the server 10 determines whether or not the check-out of a specified

document is possible on the basis of a document management number

specified in the request").

As per claim 24:

Hino in combination with either Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the

base claim and Carter further teaches

said client requesting via said proxy server modification to said versioned

file in said repository; and said proxy server requesting said central server to

make said modification to said versioned file in said repository (see at least col.

1:50-60 "*The proxy server provides a degree of sharing between individual*

users caches, because the proxy server caches data accessed by the entire

group of users. Stored data may include cached copies of Web pages,

image files, JAVA applets, and ActiveX controls. The proxy server

manages each user's Internet connection and, as mentioned above,

provides a degree of data caching between users of the system, since the

proxy server may cache data downloaded by a first user. If that data

remains in the proxy server's cache when a second user requests it, the

proxy server can supply the data to the second user").

<u>As per claim 25:</u>

Hino in combination with either Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the

base claim and Hino further teaches

controlling modification of the repository via a checkout mechanism

comprising part of said central server (see at least col. 6:45-48 "*Upon accepting*

a check-out request from a client 40 (step A1 in FIG. 6), the server 10

determines whether or not the check-out of a specified document is

possible on the basis of a document management number specified in the

request").

As per claim 29:

Hino in combination with either Ebata or Carter teaches all the limitations of the

base claim and Hino further teaches

wherein said proxy server device is adapted to operate transparently to

user of said at least one client device (see at least col. 1:50-60 "***The proxy***

server provides a degree of sharing between individual users caches,

because the proxy server caches data accessed by the entire group of

users. Stored data may include cached copies of Web pages, image files,

JAVA applets, and ActiveX controls. The proxy server manages each

user's Internet connection and, as mentioned above, provides a degree of

data caching between users of the system, since the proxy server may

cache data downloaded by a first user. If that data remains in the proxy

server's cache when a second user requests it, the proxy server can supply

the data to the second user").

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Phillip H. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571)

270-1070. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 10:00 AM -

3:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Wei Y. Zhen can be reached on (571) 272-3708. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PN
9/12/2008

/Wei Y Zhen/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2191